

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KABUL 08413 310214Z

70

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 FEA-01 /019 W

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R 300910Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5562

UNCLAS KABUL 8413

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, AF

SUBJ: MAJOR PRODUCTS: PETROCHEMICAL FACILITIES

REF: STATE 301246

1. PETROCHEMICAL PROJECT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN PLACED AT LEAST

TEMPORARILY, ON BACK BURNER. EMBASSY NOT AWARE OF ANY GOA ACTION SINCE REFTEL. TOUFIQUI IN RECENT CONTACTS HAS SHOWN LITTLE INTEREST IN DISCUSSING PROJECT. ALSO, DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING RECENTLY COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT DEVELOPMENT OF PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY IS STILL FAR IN AFGHANISTAN'S FUTURE.

2. EMBASSY KNOWS OF THREE AMERICAN FIRMS WHICH HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PETROCHEMICAL PROJECT. BLACK AND VEACH CONSULTING ENGINEERS WROTE TOUFIQUI IN SEPTEMBER EXPRESSING GENERAL INTEREST IN PETROCHEMICAL AND OTHER PROJECTS. A REPRESENTATIVE OF LUMMUS CO. (INDIA) CONTACTED EMBASSY IN OCTOBER CONCERNING PROJECT, BUT WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER HE HAS FOLLOWED UP WITH TOUFIQUI. A REPRESENTATIVE OF COMBUSTION ENGINEERING OVERSEAS INC. VISITED KABUL IN DECEMBER AND DISCUSSED, INTER ALIA, THE PETROCHEMICAL PROJECT WITH TOUFIQUI.
ELIOT

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